



URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF ELLAND.

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

AND THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

FOR 1913.

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban
District Council of Elland.*

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Twenty-Seventh Annual Report on the health and general sanitary conditions of your district. In my First Annual Report, that for 1886, I estimated the population of Elland as 9,200, this year my estimate is 10,700, as against 10,678 according to the Census of 1911; a great many new buildings have been erected since the Census was last taken, therefore, I think that if my estimate errs at all, it is on the low side.

The corrected number of Births registered during the year was 204, at the rate of 19.06 per 1000, this is a very considerable increase in comparison with recent years, on which our inhabitants may be cordially congratulated; still it is much below the general standard which was for England and Wales last year 23.9, and for Elland in 1886, 30.87. These figures speak for themselves, and so many and diverse explanations have been advanced, that at last a Committee of Investigation has been formed, called the "National Council of Public Morals." This Council has for its motto the felicitous words of our King, "the foundations of national glory are set in the homes of the people, and they will only remain unshaken while the family life of our race and nation is strong, simple and pure." I await with interest the result of this Council's deliberations, as I hope it may never be said of us, as has been sneeringly said of France, that "England produces more coffins than cradles."

DEATH RATE.

113 Deaths were actually registered in this district during the year, at the rate of 10.56 per 1000 of the population, though the nett deaths belonging to the district number 135, at the rate of 12.61, this is the lowest death rate recorded since the year 1909, and compares favourably with 13.7, the rate for England and Wales.

Of the deaths registered, 9 were due to the principal Zymotic diseases, 2 were caused by Measles, 1 by Whooping Cough, 3 by Diphtheria and 3 were due to Diarrhœa and Enteritis, at the rate of 0.84, as compared with 1.20 for England and Wales.

TABLE 1.

Showing Mortality at subjoined ages.

At all ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	Deaths in public Institutions in district.
135	21	2	2	5	4	15	31	55	Nil.

As will be seen from this table, 21 deaths occurred during the year of children under 1 year of age; although 7 of these deaths were due to premature birth or congenital defects, still the rate per 1000 births, 102.94 is higher than that of the preceding year, and ought to be considerably reduced. The Infant Mortality rate for the rest of the country was 109, yet exclusive of 241 towns, the rate for England and Wales was only 96. We must aim at this lower figure by greater endeavours to improve the homes and surroundings of the people.

TABLE 2.

The Causes for the Mortality from all diseases will be seen in the following table.

Measles	...	...	2
Whooping Cough	...	...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	10
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	1
Cancer	...	...	11
Heart Disease	...	...	15
Bronchitis	...	...	12
Pneumonia	...	...	5
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	...	...	1
Diarrhœa and Enteritis	...	...	3
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	4
Nephritis and Bright's Disease	...	...	6
Accidents of Parturition	...	...	2
Congenital Debility and Malforma- tion, including Premature Birth	...	...	7
Violent Deaths	...	...	4
Suicide	...	...	1
Other Defined Diseases	...	...	25
Diseases ill-defined	...	...	22

I dare say you notice the absence from this table of such diseases as Enteric Fever and Scarlet Fever, as a matter of fact only one case of the former disease came to my knowledge during the year, and though 24 cases of the latter disease were notified no fatal results ensued, the cases being, as during the epidemic of 1912, of a generally mild character.

As you will see, there is very little variation in the number of deaths from Tuberculous and Malignant diseases between this and previous years. Notification of Tuberculous diseases is now compulsory, and 21 cases of Pulmonary and 16 of other Tuberculous diseases were notified to me and duly transmitted to the Authorities at Wakefield, to whom is entrusted the duty of giving effect to the provisions of the National Insurance Act, applicable to such cases.

TABLE 3.

Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year.

	At all ages	Un- der 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and up- wards.	Total cases re- moved to Hospital
Diphtheria ...			4	20	4	1	1		7
Erysipelas ...					1		7	3	
Scarlet Fever ...			11	7	5	1			3
Enteric Fever ...					1				
Pulmonary Tub- erculosis			1		6	8	6		
Other Forms of Tuberculosis...				4	5	2	5		
Totals ...	103	—	16	31	22	12	19	3	10

I must draw your attention especially to the excessive number of cases of Diphtheria which have occurred during the year, viz., 30, proving fatal in 3 cases. I think the causes predisposing to or actually responsible for so many cases of this disease are not far to seek. In the first place we had an exceptionally dry summer and autumn, which meant that for months the drains and sewers remained unflushed, added to this the fact that many of the present sewers are simply walled culverts, good enough for the purpose for which they were constructed, that is, to carry away slop and surface water, but altogether inefficient for a town in which the water carriage system of removal of excreta has been substituted for the old midden privy system. I would strongly urge upon your Council the early and complete overhauling of

our sewerage, with a view of substituting sanitary pipes for the present faulty walled drains. I have frequently drawn the attention of your Council to this question, and anticipating your difficulties, I wrote the following in my Annual Report for 1904 :—"The attention of your Council has been drawn during the year to the inefficiency of many of the town's sewers. In view of the fact that the town is rapidly being placed on the water carriage system for the removal of excreta, I hope that steps may be taken to gradually convert all walled sewers into piped ones, this is becoming a very serious matter, and will I believe become more so, particularly in dry seasons, so that I would strongly urge this matter on your earnest attention."

Measles was prevalent during the months of October and November causing 2 deaths, the disease was confined to the infants attending the National School. The usual precautions were taken, though it was not thought necessary to close the school. The death recorded from Whooping Cough had no connection with the outbreak of Measles.

Ten cases of infectious diseases were removed to the Halifax Infectious Diseases Hospital, for reasons recorded in my Annual Report for 1912. These cases are sent in accordance with an arrangement come to between the Halifax Corporation and your Council.

The physical features and social conditions of this district also the chief occupations of its people are well known to you and have been so often referred to by me as not to necessitate repetition.

Your Inspector has paid special attention during the year to the Milk Supply, also to the condition of Cowsheds, Dairies and Slaughterhouses, particulars as to these inspections will be found in Table C. The Scavenging of the district is efficiently carried out by your servants.

Housing, Town Planning Act, 1909.

Any action with respect to Part 2 of this Act is still in abeyance.

The inspection of houses is being steadily proceeded with by your Inspector. The inspection of North and East Wards is completed and that of South Ward nears completion, full particulars are appended. The carrying out of many sanitary requirements will be facilitated, as I pointed out in my last Annual Report, by a revision of our bye-laws, this is at present receiving your attention.

Sewage Disposal.

Your Sewage Disposal Works has been declared by the Rivers Board to be inefficient or rather insufficient, and a time is fixed in which improvements must take place; with this object in view, your Council has visited the works erected or in course of erection by several Corporate and Urban Authorities, and the information gained through the courtesy extended to us, can leave little doubt as to the steps necessary to be taken. At present our sewage is treated by precipitation and land filtration. I feel sure that our methods in these respects can be improved, and that with the addition of artificial filters with revolving or other distributors, we can turn a clear effluent into the Calder and so do our part towards the purification of the "crooked water" as its name very truly implies.

Factory and Workshops' Act, 1901.

24 Workshops and 14 Factories were inspected during the year, and in two cases nuisances were discovered due to want of cleanliness and insufficient sanitary accommodation, these deficiencies have been remedied. 3 Underground Bakehouses have been inspected and found in a satisfactory condition, and Certificates granted.

We have no outworkers to whom the Act is applicable.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

ROBT. N. DENNING,

April 6th, 1914.

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban
District Council of Elland.*

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report for the year 1913.

REMOVAL OF NIGHTSOIL, ASHES, &c.

Month.		No. of Loads to Destructor	Weight.			To Tips and on Land.	Van Loads of Night- soil.
			Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.		
January	...	115	114	18	3	26	35
February	...	149	152	13	1	48	28
March	...	169	172	0	2	22	28
April	...	126	126	12	2	34	28
May	...	161	160	10	2	35	35
June	...	97	95	9	1	39	28
July	...	158	160	11	2	18	32
August	...	103	103	4	0	41	31
September	...	93	98	11	3	30	28
October	...	168	173	9	2	26	35
November	...	110	118	4	2	41	28
December	...	221	229	12	2	29	28
Total...	...	1670	1705	18	2	389	364

T. C. Q.
(Average 1 0 1 per load).

SEWER EXTENSIONS.

The Sewer has been extended in Victoria Road a distance of 40 yards with 12" pipes. There is one man-hole in this length. Two semi-detached dwellings have been connected to this sewer.

The remaining portion of the Walled Sewer in Quebec Street has been replaced with 9" earthenware pipes, length 110 yards. This sewer was in a very bad state, some portions of it having given way. All the property on each side has been connected up to it.

CONVERSION OF PRIVIES.

Insanitary Privies and Tub Closets converted on to the Water Carriage system.

Year.	W.C.'s	Tipper.	Total.
1903	14	8	22
1904	48	29	77
1905	110	12	122
1906	52	16	68
1907	33	1	34
1908	47	5	52
1909	43	5	48
1910	31	—	31
1911	37	10	47
1912	13	3	16
1913	26	—	26
	454	89	543

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

(For Dwellinghouses only.)

No. of Privies ...	...	...	...	...	490
„ Water Closets	...	...	...	...	956
„ Waste Water Closets	...	...	...	...	402

Approximate amount of water used for W.C's (956) at 12 gallons per day = 4,187,280 gallons a year. This is a low estimate seeing that in many instances two houses join at one closet.

ASHPIT ACCOMMODATION.

Ash-pits in connection with Privies	...	291
Dry Ashpits		438
Galvanised Bins		227
Ash Tubs		257

SUMMARY OF NUISANCES, &c. DURING 1913.

	<i>Reported.</i>	<i>Remedied</i>
Sink Water Pipes not disconnected	74	53
Defective Waste Pipes	2	1
Choked and Defective Drains	5	5
Choked Trough Closets and W.C's	23	23
Insanitary Privies	22	14
Insanitary Tub Closets	9	9
Insufficient Closet Accommodation	4	3
Insufficient Ashpit Accommodation	13	12
Cesspools Abolished	1	1
Insufficient and Defective Eavestroughing	15	8
Bedroom without Light	1	...
Damp Houses and Unfit for Habitation	2	2
Dirty Houses	1	1
Overcrowding	2	2
Offensive Manure Heaps	3	3
Houses Disinfected	70	...
Notices and Letters Served	102	...

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

F. W. TILLOTSON.

April 6th, 1914.

TABLE C. 1913.**Elland Urban Sanitary District.***Water Supply—*

Any developments during 1913?—No.

Any insufficiency and where?—None.

Any curtailment?—No.

Did any wells fail, and where?—No.

Any unsatisfactory quality, and where?—No.

Any unchecked plumbo-solvent action?—No.

Drainage and Sewerage—

Any developments during 1913?—Extension in Victoria Road, 40 yards 12" pipes. 110 yards walled Sewer in Quebec Street replaced with 9in. pipes.

Developments still needed as to—

(a) Want of Sewers—None.

(b) Improvement of defective Sewers—See text of Report.

Any inadequacy of Sewage Disposal Works or complaints as to smells?—Extension under consideration.

No. of sink-wastes disconnected during 1913—53. Trapped—53.

Proportion of sink-wastes still needing disconnection—Many.

Closet Accommodation—

No of Privies with open middens—A few.

No. of Pail or Tub Closets—237.

No. of Privies with covered middens—490.

No. of Water Closets—956.

Waste-water Closets—402.

No. of Privies and Tubs reconstructed during 1913—

(a) as w.c's.—26.

No. of additional Closets provided for old property in 1913—(a) w.c's.—14.

No. of Closets constructed in 1913 for new houses (a) w.c's.—33.

Scavenging—

How is refuse disposed (a) Destructor—Yes.

(b) Tips—Yes.

(c) Farmers—Nightsoil from Tub Closets.

Total annual cost—£350.

Is there any inadequacy, and where?—No.

Any change during 1913?—No.

Nuisance Inspections—

Total No. of Inspections made in 1913—903.*

Informal Notices served—23. Complied with—20.

Statutory Notices served—1. Complied with—1.

Total No. of Nuisances in hand at close of 1912—27.

At close of 1913—40.

Total No. of Nuisances reported during 1913—177.

Abated during 1913—164.

Total No. of Summonses or other legal proceedings—None.

Regulated Buildings, Trades, &c.	No. in District.	No. on Register	Total No. of Inspec- tions made.	General Conditions.	Legal Proceed- ings (if any)
Common Lodging Houses	—	—	—	Good.	
Canal Boats	7	7	5		
Knackers' Yards	—	—	—		
Offensive Trades (Please specify kind)	4	4	12	2 Tripe Boiling 1 Soap Boiling 1 Oil Extractor	

Have the Council declared any other processes to be offensive trades, *e.g.*, Fish-frying, Maggot-breeding, etc., please give particulars—No.

Schools—

No. of Elementary Schools in District—4.

No. of Visits to School—Many.

Action taken—Disinfection when necessary.

Milk Supply—

No. of samples taken by Officers of S.A. for analysis under F. & D. Acts—15. No. adulterated—1 poor quality.

No. for bacteriological examination—None.

What arrangement for Veterinary Inspection of of dairy cows?—None.

No. of animals notified by Police under Tuberculosis Order, 1913—None.

Any instance of disease attributed to milk in 1913?—No.

No. of Cowkeepers in district—18. No. Registered—18. No. of Milk Sellers who are also Cowkeepers—12. No. who are Purveyors only—4. Total No. Registered—22.

Total No. of Cowsheds—30. No. of Inspections in 1913—24. General Condition—Good.

Approx. No. of Milch Cows in District—185.

Any insufficiency in Milk Supply?—No.

Legal proceedings under D.C.M. Orders?—No.

Any Inspection or other Action by Districts to which Milk is sent?—No.

Other Foods—

No. of samples (other than Milk) taken by Officer of S.A. for examination under the Foods and Drugs Acts—None. No. of seizures of unsound food—None.

No. of Slaughter houses—8. No. Registered—8. Kind and Condition—Fair.

Factories and Workshops—

Any Smoke nuisances, and where?—Several.

No. of Smoke observations taken—8.

No. of Cautions—4 Legal Notices—None.

Summonses—None.

Adoptive Acts—

Acts adopted during 1913—None.

Byelaws and Regulations—

Are any other Byelaws needed?—Yes.

Infectious and other Diseases—

What diseases have been specially prevalent in 1913?—Measles and Diphtheria.

What special action to combat same?—Isolation where possible, and Disinfection of Premises.

Is Hospital accommodation adequate and sufficient?—Yes.

What arrangement for the supply of antitoxin?—Supplied free by S.A.

Any diseases specially added to notifiable List?—No.

Any influence threatening the health of the District?—Insufficient Sewers in some places.

Tuberculosis

Inspection of Patient's Home and Workshop—Yes.

Disinfection—After death or removals.

Distribution of advice leaflets—Where advisable.

Action re-spitting—No.

Shelters provided—No.

Is sputum examined?—Yes.

Bacteriology—

Is County Laboratory utilized?—Yes.

Any suggestions?—No.

Infant Mortality—

What organized effort to control it?—Pamphlets issued to all mothers.

Has Notification of Births Act, 1907, been adopted?—No.

Is Health Visitor appointed by S.A.?—No.

By other body—Local Education Committee.

Causes of any excessive Infant Mortality in 1913—See text of Report.

Vital Statistics—

Births during 1913—Males 100. Females 104. Total 204.

No. illegitimate included in above—6. No. of Still Births (not included)—No information.

Deaths during 1913—(1) Gross Deaths, *i.e.*, total actually registered in the district without any correction—113. (2) Nett Deaths on which the rates are calculated, Males 72, Females 63—135. No. of uncertified deaths (included above)—None.

Miscellaneous—

Rainfall—33.39.

What Mortuary accommodation—(a) for accidents—provided. (b) for infectious cases other than in Hospital—not found necessary.

No. of Burial Grounds—4. Any need for extension?—No.

Are there any Maggot breeding establishments in District—No.

Sanitary Staff—

What is the present Annual Salary of the M.O.H.?—£40.

Name of Sanitary Inspector—F. W. Tillotson.

Annual Salary as Inspector—£60.

Other appointments held—Assistant Surveyor.

Salary for such other appointments—£65.

Any Assistants?—No.